

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01

TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 XMB-02

OPIC-03 /086 W

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P R 131220Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8283

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRASILIA 8755

PASS TREASURY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD BR

SUBJECT: BRAZILIAN REACTIONS TO NEW ITC INVESTIGATION ON SHOE IMPORTS

1. THE POSSIBLE RE-OPENING OF THE SHOE IMPORT CASE BY THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION (ITC) AT THE REQUEST OF THE CONGRESS HAS RECEIVED, AS EXPECTED, WIDE COVERAGE IN THE BRAZILIAN PRESS. UPON HIS RETURN FROM TALKS WITH US OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON, FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA IS REPORTED IN THE PRESS (OCTOBER 11) AS SAYING THAT THE "US MAY RE-OPEN THE SHOE CASE WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF IMPOSING RESTRICTIVE MEASURES, WHOSE EFFECT WOULD BE FELT BY THE END OF THE FIRST QUADRIMESTER OF 1977". SILVEIRA ALSO TOLD THE PRESS THAT, DURING HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH US OFFICIALS, HE EXPLAINED THAT SECRETARY SIMON HAD ASSUMED A COMMITMENT DURING HIS (SIMON'S) VISIT TO BRAZIL EARLIER THIS YEAR NOT TO RE-EXAMINE THE SHOE CASE UNTIL THE END OF 1977.

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2. COMMENTING ON OVERALL TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND BRAZIL, THE FOREIGN MINISTER REPOREDLY SAID: "A PROBLEM WHICH MUST BE RESOLVED ONCE AND FOR ALL IS THE AMERICAN HABIT TO APPEAL TO DOMESTIC LAWS WHIT INVOLVES IMPOSING IMPORT RESTRICTIONS, AND TO INVOKE THE BENEFITS OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS, WHEN IT INVOLVES EXPORTING ITS PRODUCTS".

3. COMMENT: THE FOREIGN MINISTER APPARENTLY CONFUSED ABOUT THE NATURE OF THE SIMON-SIMONSEN AGREEMENT ON SHOES. THAT ACCORD DEALT SOLELY WITH DELAYING A NEW INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE CURRENT COUNTERVAILING DUTY VOTES SHOULD BE CHANGED. IT DID NOT COVER POSSIBLE ACTION BY THE ITC. WE WILL TRY TO CLARIFY THIS MISUNDERSTANDING WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS AS APPROPRIATE.
JOHNSON

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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